



## City of San Marcos

630 E. Hopkins  
San Marcos, Texas 78666

## NEWS

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Melissa Millecam, Communications/ Intergovernmental Relations Director  
512.393.8105 [mmillecam@sanmarcostx.gov](mailto:mmillecam@sanmarcostx.gov)

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### City Wins Municipal Excellence Award for ACT Campaign

The Texas Municipal League has awarded the City of San Marcos the “Municipal Excellence Award in Management Innovations” for cities of more than 25,000 population for the “Achieving Community Together” campaign.

City of San Marcos and Texas State University officials were on hand at the ceremony in Fort Worth Oct. 21 to accept the award for a town-gown initiative that has gained national attention since it was developed in 2008.



In university towns, students and non-students often clash, and San Marcos is no exception, the TML award presentation

noted. In an effort to improve these relations, the Achieving Community Together—or ACT program—was formed by San Marcos Police, other City departments and Texas State University students, staff and faculty.

**A WINNING ACT:** San Marcos city and university officials are honored at the recent Texas Municipal League Conference for the community-building ACT campaign. L-R are Rick Menchaca, Mayor Susan Narvaiz, Lisa Dvorak, Dr. Joanne Smith, and Howard Williams; back row: Steve Parker, Melissa Millecam, David Healey, Sherry Mashburn, Heather Hurlbert, Les Stephens, Laurie Moyer and Richard Stankiewicz.

Co-chaired by Assistant Police Chief Lisa Dvorak and Dr. Joanne Smith, Vice President of Student Affairs, ACT focuses on common values, missions and goals and has developed a problem-solving model to identify issues and seek solutions.

This historic effort marks the first time stakeholders have come together on a large scale to promote positive relations between student and non-student residents through education, community connectedness and resources. Since its formation, ACT has rapidly evolved to a large scale ongoing program with a long term impact.

Accepting the award were Mayor Susan Narvaiz, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Kim Porterfield, City Councilman Fred Terry, City Manager Rick Menchaca, Police Chief Howard Williams and Chief Dvorak joined by Dr. Smith and Michelle Lopez, Associate Director of the LBJ Student Center at Texas State University.

During the annual conference, Chief Dvorak, Dr. Smith and Ms. Lopez conducted a seminar on the ACT program attended by city officials from across Texas.

The Texas Municipal League is a voluntary association of more than 1,100 Texas cities which serves the needs and advocates on behalf of municipalities. TML is the largest organization of its kind in the nation.

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